

# The City of Springfield Ohio

Office of the City Manager

March 6, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

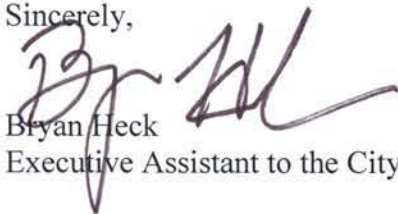
I am writing this letter to inform you of the importance of Public, Educational, and Governmental Access (PEG) channels to our organization and most importantly to our community and its citizens. PEG programming serves as a vital medium for local communities across America. Our PEG programming and that of many other communities provides citizens with access to information that ensures transparency and accountability of our government body. Transparency and accountability are imperative in our democratic society and have become a focal point for government with President Obama's Administration. It is the responsibility of our institutions and organizations to provide in-depth access to our citizens, and PEG programming provides the means for us to fulfill this responsibility. PEG programming is an important commitment to the people of the United States.

PEG programming not only makes our local governments more transparent and accountable to the citizens we serve, but it also promotes localism and diversity throughout our community. It also supports community development as it allows our organization to effectively illustrate the many great people, places, and projects that makeup Springfield. This technology is critical for municipalities as they try to retain and attract new businesses that provide our citizens with jobs, as well as the amenities they desire through retail business. It is becoming more difficult for communities to get their message out to its citizens, businesses, visitors, and future citizens and businesses as technology changes and people rely on different sources of media to get information. This demonstrates the need for PEG Programming now more than ever as communities are being left behind in this rapidly changing media environment.

PEG programming is also an important means of civic participation, and if lost, will diminish the local voice in our communities. Our PEG programming provides government access to our citizens, as they can stay up-to-date on what is happening in their community. It also allows them to voice their opinions to a much larger audience through the various public and government meetings that are shown live on our PEG channel. Our channel also plays an important role in providing much needed information to our citizens twenty-four hours a day seven days a week. This is true in many communities as PEG programming provides vital information about public safety, emergency management, weather emergencies, amber alerts, road closings, school closings, and much more.

PEG programming ensures transparency and accountability in local government, supports and contributes to community development, connects our citizens to their community leaders, and will continue to serve communities across America as we continue to move forward in a digital age. Please continue this vital and vibrant service that exists throughout our great country.

Sincerely,



Bryan Heck  
Executive Assistant to the City Manager